



**HARTLEY WINTNEY
TWINNING
ASSOCIATION**



BULLETIN 2 - MAY 2010

Edited by Dave Skellern

Hot on the heels of Bulletin 1 comes another edition to update you on two events in particular.

The first event was a visit to Malle by the five Golden Bridge project managers over the first weekend of May. The weekend gave us a taste of the excellent results achieved by the project and has certainly whetted our appetites for the main course in Malle in September. We will soon issue invitations, primarily to all who participated in the Golden Bridge project, but also to HWTa members, to join us in Malle in September for the climax. Keep an eye out for it and don't miss this unique opportunity.

If you didn't go to the Fun Wine Tasting evening you can read all about it below. If you did go, you might need a reminder, but please let us know what you thought of it. The committee needs your opinions so that HWTa can give you what you want. To this end, you will soon receive a questionnaire asking for your ideas on many aspects of twinning. I encourage you to take the opportunity to let us know what you think.

Dave Skellern
Spin Doctor



Village Festival

Don't forget the Village Festival on 12 June where Steve and Andrew and numerous willing assistants will be waiting to serve your annual glass of the acclaimed Westmalle Tripel and Dubbel. Hartley Wintney will be hosting around eight guests from Malle.



Golden Bridge Project

As you know, Hartley Wintney is involved in the Golden Bridge (GB) Project instigated by Malle, which involves all four of Malle's twinning partners and reaches a climax later this year. The GB project managers (Steve Sharpe – Music, Cathy Roberts – Environment, Gerda Bennett – Heritage and Sue and Dave Skellern – Art and Digital Photography) visited Malle on 9 May.



The event started with the world premiere of 'Europa, Europa!' the twinning symphony, which is the product of collaboration by all five twinned communities. The contributors from Hartley Wintney were our own Janet McDonald (libretto) and Sam Jones (music). Sam was born and raised in Hartley

Wintney, studied music at Queen's University, Belfast, and is still very involved in our community as an explorer leader with the Scouts.

The performance took place in the cathedral in Lier where an audience of several hundred listened spellbound to an orchestra and huge choir of adults and children. It was an excellent performance of five separately composed pieces cleverly sewn together by Han Flintrap to create a work of both diversity and unity. All those who contributed to the composition and performance of the work should be very proud, including Janet and Sam, whose baroque piece was excellent. It is planned that the work will be played as the finale to the Golden Bridge weekend in Malle in September.



The event continued back in Malle with a 90 minute programme including images of twinning events over recent years interspersed with speeches and presentations by representatives from Malle and Saint-Savin. Gifts were presented to

several of the representatives from Saint-Savin and Malle in recognition of their service to twinning.



Will the Fat Boys be able to resist these cycling jersey's?



Twin and Twan poster designed by Dirk Nuyts of Malle

The day finished with a reception in the beautiful Castle of Renesse where many of the products of the Golden Bridge Project were on display. Works of art and photos from Hartley Wintney were among the many examples from the five communities. The cross-stitch, depicting scenes from all five communities and recently completed by Carol Brown, was on display for the first time and will reappear in September suitably framed for presentation to the people of Malle. And the stories, written by five communities and featuring the characters Twin and Twan, were on display for the first time, beautifully illustrated and currently only in their native language versions, but soon to be printed in all five languages. We left the event awestruck by the huge achievement of our friends in Malle and laden with Twin and Twan t-shirts for the children of Greenfields.

A selection of photographs of the weekend can be found at

<http://verbroederingmalle.skynetblogs.be/category/1062788/1/Algemeen> (click on Algemeen to reveal more photos)

and you can see much of the output of the project at

www.goldenbridge.eu

We are pleased to report that Greenfields School in Hartley Wintney and a similar school in Malle have both expressed an interest in communicating with each other. This interest arose directly from Greenfields' involvement in the heritage strand of the Golden Bridge Project and will be facilitated and encouraged by HWTA. If you are connected with a local organization that may be interested in exploring links with a similar organization in Saint-Savin or Malle please let us know.



Fun Wine Tasting

On 15th May a wine tasting evening was held in the WI Hut, Hartley Wintney, organised on behalf of the HWTA by Susan & David Skellern. The wine tasting itself was planned by Oli Bartle and Paul Skellern, who recently worked together at Wine Rack in Hook. Oli now works for Wine Shack in Odiham, so he brought a great deal of expertise in selecting the wines which were all supplied by Auriol Wines.

The evening was well supported as over 50 people attended and were invited at the outset to form teams of six and come up with a name for their group. They were then asked to attempt a quiz about wine as well as finding sometimes tenuous connections between wine and music and newspaper headlines.

The wine tasting consisted of three whites and three reds. But firstly we were given for each wine a presentation by each of three presenters---- Oli masquerading as Ollie Smith, "Oz Clark" & "Jilly Gooden", the latter two emphasising that lying was a key part of the process! "Jilly" looked remarkably like Dave Skellern in a wig! "Oz" was portrayed by Paul Skellern. Each described the bouquet, type & origin of the wine being tasted - of course, only one was correct! Each sample tasted was dispensed by Susan & Em Skellern.



As you can imagine, tasting six wines plus access to an ample supply of other wines and soft drinks, led to an increasing hilarity & noise especially from "Jilly" who I think had been at the lemonade! A

thoroughly enjoyable evening was concluded by the "Piston Broke" team (pictured) winning the top quiz prize and the booby going to "The Hartley Twinners". Chairman Steve Sharpe wound up the evening by thanking all those responsible for its great success.



[Your reporter at the wine tasting was Roger Young, Sue's Dad, so it was quite a family event. Apologies to anyone still suffering from inner ear damage and I must admonish whoever it was who spiked my lemonade! You should be ashamed of yourself. Thank you Roger. Editor]



Return of the Fat Boys

As reported in Bulletin 1, the Fat Boys are coming home this year, cycling from Saint-Savin to Hartley Wintney. Our intrepid lardies are travelling to Saint-Savin by a combination of road and air and will embark on the 280 mile return journey on Thursday 24th June. They are scheduled to arrive back in Hartley Wintney some time during the early afternoon of Sunday 27th June. They hope to raise more money this year, but this time for the Scouts and Guides of Hartley Wintney. The Fat Boys consists of Andrew Morton, Tim Howard, Chris Roberts, Cathy Roberts, Tony Bones, Jim Woolhouse and Steve Sharpe with Warren Parsons driving the support car. You may have noticed that not all of them are necessarily boys or fat! We hope that you will support this Herculean effort by donating some cash when they launch their site at www.justgiving.com. Please note that all donations will go to the nominated charities– the Fat Boys, sponsored by HWTA, fund all their own flights, beds and, of course, breakfasts!



From last year's photo album you can see why they are called the Fat Boys! The riders

are greeted in Malle by Mayor Harry Hendrickx. You can see the full story of last year's epic journey at:

http://www.hwta.org.uk/Documents/Hartley_Wintney_to_Malle.pdf



Dates for your diary

Here is a diary of key events for the next few months. See the website www.hwta.org.uk for regular updates.

5 – 6 June	40 th anniversary of twinning between Saint-Savin and Heusenstamm in Saint-Savin
12 June	Westmalle beer at the Village Festival
23 – 27 June	Charity cycle ride from Saint-Savin to Hartley Wintney
17 – 20 July	Walking in Saint-Savin
3 – 5 Sept	Golden Bridge Finale in Malle

We expect to announce our autumn event programme soon.

The next issue should cover the early-June celebrations in Saint-Savin and the HW Festival.

If you want more information or would like to get involved, contact any committee member. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue of the Bulletin. Don't forget – communication is a two-way process and your ideas and opinions are always welcome.

Spin Doctor