

# LYTCHETT MATRAVERS TWINNING ASSOCIATION

## Annual Report October 2010

Lytchett Matravers continues to nurture a strong, if relatively small, twinning association with approximately 30 paid up families this year. Our committee of nine people meet around six times a year and try to share responsibilities evenly. We aim to offer the members a variety of social events in addition to our yearly Twinning Weekend when we meet up with our French friends from Les Pieux.

This is a brief resume of our activities since the last Dorset Association AGM.

In November we hosted a successful Barn Dance in our village hall with The Hat Band providing the music and our committee producing a lovely supper for our members and their friends.

In early December we met at The Chequers in the village for our now annual Christmas Meal which was well supported and we have our table booked again for this Christmas.

Santa and his helpers came to the village a few days before Christmas and on a freezing evening the sled was pulled around the houses distributing sweets to the children and collecting money for our nominated charity which this year was Poole Hospital Wish List. We were treated to mulled wine and mince pies on our route to help keep the cold at bay!

At our AGM early in the year we were fortunate to keep a full committee to continue the Association and were pleased to see quite a fair number of our members joining us for the meeting and the following cheese and wine.

On a beautiful Sunday in April we joined forces for a lovely walk in the Purbecks followed by a snack lunch at Kingston over looking Corfe Castle. A great way to chat and meet up with friends.

The main event of our year was the Twinning Weekend which this year took place in May. This was a particularly special time for us all this year as it marked the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the setting up of our joint association with Les Pieux. We were very pleased to welcome 47 French friends across to Lytchett Matravers for the weekend and were proud to entertain their Mayor who made the effort to join us for this occasion. The weather for the weekend was superb and we decided to provide a typically English type of event which included a Treasure Hunt around the village, Cream Teas, the planting of a tree, Canon Firing, entertainment from our local school, a BBQ and then the inevitable speeches in both languages. A great weekend was had by all with the only complaint being that the weekend was too short due to the lack of the Barfleur – something which other Twinning Associations are probably finding problems with.

In June Lytchett Matravers has its Carnival and we always make an effort both to enter a float and to run a bottle tombola both of which provide us with a means of reminding possible new members of our existence.

The Summer months are always quiet for us but we are ready with new ideas to start another year of hopefully successful events.