

GOOD YEAR FOR MDTTA

Although there were several apologies at the recent Annual General Meeting, those present heard of a satisfactory year, both socially and financially, in 2006/7.

Chairman Tony Bristow, in his report on activity in that period, noted the establishment of the website www.mdttta.co.uk by webmaster Andrew Severy. Linked to the website of Normandy town of Luc sur Mer, it has already received a good number of "hits", with Andrew being warmly thanked for his efforts.

Two parties of French visitors were received in June and November 2006, being hosted by English families, whilst the Riverside Middle School trip to Luc last October brought, amongst other things, free mini-golf and hosting at The Mairie (Town Hall).

Locally, the Chairman's Garden Party - when cheques for French prizes were presented to College Heath Middle School, to Riverside Middle School and to the College of Technology - was extremely well-attended, with a veteran Mr. Bryan Taylor-Balls representing MDTTA at the Remembrance wreath-laying ceremony.

A three-figure fundraising raffle organised by Miss Jean Oldman, together with similar income from other social events (including two Quiz Evenings), enabled the treasurer to present a satisfactory audited Balance Sheet, with no increase proposed for membership fees for the coming year.

One sad feature was the news that Luc-sur-Mer's "other link", with Frickenhausen in south-east Germany, would mean the French being unable to act as hosts in May/June. On the other hand, the return of founder-chairman jeweller M. Yves Lecuziat as vice-president for English affairs clearly bodes well, with the new President, Mme. Hachette, also showing great enthusiasm.

As a result, the English committee - including newcomer Martin Adams - will have a range of items to discuss at their next meeting, including a possible visit to France in September/October. Half-a-dozen other social proposals will see them kept busy on 18th April, including the next Garden Party in July and a Riverside Middle School visit to Luc-sur-Mer during the autumn half-term.

Members of the English committee are Tony Bristow (Chairman), Cllrs. Adrian Peachey and Teresa Gooch-Taylor-Balls (Parish Council), Andrew Severy (Riverside Middle School), Stephanie Palmer (Mildenhall Museum), Norman Noel (R.B.L.), Martin Adams, Grace Bristow (Secretary) and John Barker (Treasurer & Press Officer).