



CONNECTIONS 2015

ISSUE NO 21. OCTOBER 2015

BATH'S TWINNING NEWSLETTER

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AIX-EN-PROVENCE

Choirs

Exchanges between choirs are a major part of our twinning year, and following Bath choirs' visits to Aix last year it was their turn to visit us.

More than 50 members of Aix choir **Opus 13** visited Bath the first weekend in May as guests of the **Paragon Singers**, who had previously sung with them in Aix last September. All visitors were hosted by members of the Paragon Singers, their friends and neighbours, and members of the Bath-Aix Twinning Association. The visitors were greeted on Friday evening with a meal and entertainment, including being introduced to Scottish Country Dancing.

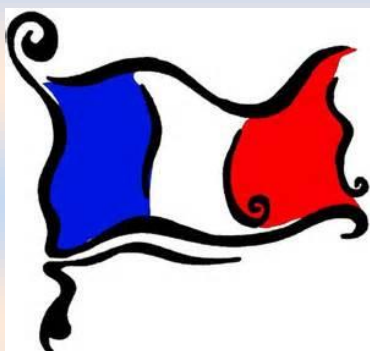
Saturday took them on a walking tour of Bath and a visit to the Roman Baths, then on to St Swithin's Church for an afternoon of rehearsal for the evening Concert. The Concert included Fauré's Requiem, Canticum de Jean Racine, and the Hallelujah Chorus which the Paragon Singers joined them for. It was well attended and all were delighted with the evening.

On Sunday the choirs met on the steps of Lacock Abbey for a free Concert for the Abbey visitors consisting of songs of the French Revolution, then the heavens opened and the planned picnic was held in Lacock Village Hall. More rehearsals led into the evening Concert at the Church of St Cyriac, Lacock.

As with all twinning exchanges, strong links and friendships were forged over the weekend which will no doubt lead to further visits.



Opus 13 and Paragon Singers at Lacock Abbey



Gardens Tour in June 2015

A whole week of visiting gardens -- in Aix and in Provence -- quelle joie !

Led by Bath-Aix Chairman, Marian McNeir, 18 very excited garden lovers assembled in Aix on 7 June and set off straight away for Bibemus, the ancient stone quarry which had been so inspirational to Cezanne. As we walked in the sunshine through amazing rock formations, the scent of thyme and marjoram underfoot, we could understand how Cezanne was drawn back again and again to Bibemus.

As the week unfurled, we delighted in gardens of all shapes and sizes from the majestic L'abbaye at Villeneuve-les-Avignon with a guided tour by the charming hand kissing owner to the small but lovingly tended Jardins De l'Hospice De Saint Paul, home for many years of Van Gogh. Few could resist the scents and herbal tinctures of the Musee des Aromes at Graveson.

Another highlight was the visit to the Chateau Val Joanis with the pencil thin cypresses in seas of lavender, so evocative of Provence. For some of us the visit to the Jardin de la Louve at Bonnieux was a dream come true. An amazing almost vertical garden with a guided tour by the owner, delighted to have visitors who understood her passion and enthusiasm.

Other gardens left vivid pictures in our minds as did the visit to Aix's magnificent new Musee Caumont with its exhibition of over 50 Canelettos.

Throughout it all was the pleasure of being with a group of like-minded enthusiasts and of being so well looked after by our Aix hosts, especially Isabel and Claude.

A truly unforgettable visit and now to the drawing board to plan a return visit by our friends from Aix.

Bath Bach Choir was delighted to welcome the **Chorale Darius Milhaud** from Aix-en-Provence at the end of June. Two years ago, Bath Bach Choir toured to Aix and performed to a full house in the Cathedral Saint Sauveur. The two choirs gave a joint performance of Fauré's Requiem in St Mary's Church Bathwick and the French choir of around 55 singers performed other works by Palestrina, Gounod and Saint-Saens. A lively reception followed, at which the visitors were formally welcomed by Marcus Sealy, Bath Bach Choir's regular accompanist and organist for the Concert, speaking in fluent French.

Past Mayor of Bath Malcolm Lees also hosted a Civic Reception for the French party, supported by the Bath-Aix Twinning Association.

Nigel Perrin, Director of Bath Bach Choir for 25 years, conducted the Fauré Requiem and said, “It was a wonderful experience for us to sing Fauré with a French choir. It encouraged us to put aside our strict Anglican heritage and discover more about the Gallic colours, style and approach to the music. Making music together is our common language.”

Members of Chorale Darius Milhaud were warmly welcomed to stay with singers of the Bath Bach Choir, and enjoyed a packed programme of activities including a walking tour of Bath and visits to the Roman Baths. The choir also gave a short, informal recital in Bath Abbey.

Bath Bach Choir was delighted to receive the following note of appreciation from Aix: “Les choristes de Darius Milhaud sont revenus enthousiastes et ravis de leur séjour dans votre superbe ville de Bath, sur les différents plans de l'organisation, de la musique et de l'ambiance de chaleureuse amitié.

Boules

Long-standing links between Bath's pétanque clubs and those around Aix were again reinforced with the Bath League de Pétanque visiting Aix in October, and the City of Bath Pétanque Club in May.

July saw a large contingent of boules players from the Aix region spending a week in Bath sightseeing, and then joining players from Bath's twin cities of Braunschweig and Kaposvár for a spectacular weekend of pétanque to celebrate the 10 Anniversary of the City of Bath Pétanque Club and the opening of their new 16 piste terrain at Larkhall Sports Club.



Visitors from Aix, Kaposvár and Braunschweig, with players from Austria and Jersey, in Bath for the 10 Anniversary of the City of Bath Pétanque Club

French Language Visit to Aix-en-Provence

In the week before Easter 2015 sixteen boys and girls from King Edward's School visited Bath's twin town Aix-en-Provence for a week-long language exchange. During the course of their stay they spent a day in their exchange school, La Nativité, as well as visiting the Roman Amphitheatre and Antique Theatre in Arles. Excursions were also made to Marseille's sights as well as a boat trip to the famous "Calanques" of Cassis. The pupils were made warmly welcome by their exchange partners and families in and around Aix, and they enjoyed sampling the pleasures of everyday French life and culture in this elegant and beautiful Mediterranean City. They welcomed their French exchange partners to Bath in the February half-term holiday earlier this year. The two schools were introduced to each other by Marian McNeir, Chairman of the Twinning Association, in Summer 2014. Arrangements are already being made for a second visit in 2016.



Christmas Market

We are delighted to welcome back our colleagues Isabel, Marie-Claude and Claude from Aix for the 2015 Christmas Market. Their stall with enticing Provencal products was a great success last year and the Bath-Aix Twinning Association members look forward to helping to staff the stall from 7th to 13th December.

Our Hon Sec Lesley Hall and friends will be participating in the Aix Marche de Noel for the fourth year and showcasing local Bath products such as Gillards tea, Winsley pickles and mince pies from the Bath Bakery.

Photograph Left – Right: Marian McNeir, Isabel, Marie-Claude and Aix Twinning President, Claude Laurens



ALKMAAR

It has been a very busy and, we think, very successful year for the Bath – Alkmaar Twinning Association. We worked very hard on governance by taking on board the recommendations on the activities of our Association as presented in the report of the management consultancy Nine Feet Tall. This advice was offered free of charge by Esther McMorris, CEO of Nine Feet Tall, for which we are very grateful. Furthermore, we strengthened our Committee with several new members and we found Councillor Dine Romero willing to fill the vacant post of Vice Chairman.

For the second year running we substantially increased the membership of our Association and our webmaster, John Stirrup, worked very hard on our website (have a look at www.bath-alkmaar.eu you will be pleasantly surprised!)

We found the Bath engineering company Rotork Controls Ltd and Bath-based Charles Stanley & Co Ltd (Investments Service) willing to sponsor two main twinning events of our Association over the last year: the visit of the Regional Youth Orchestra ‘Artiance’ to Bath, and the participation of young athletes from Bath in the 2015 International Children’s Games that were held in Alkmaar. We got additional support for these two activities from the Charter Trustees of the City of Bath, Hayesfield School and the ‘Alkmaars Uitwisselings Comite’. Again, we are very grateful for their support.

In more detail, we organized, participated and/or supported the following twinning activities between Bath and Alkmaar over the last twelve months:

The Alkmaar Café

The (then) Mayor of Bath, Councillor Cherry Beath, joined the many Bathonians who have gained insight into the city’s twinning activities through the monthly Alkmaar Café. Organized by the Bath - Alkmaar Twinning Association, the Alkmaar Café gives those interested in the Dutch twin city, and twinning in general the opportunity to meet in an informal setting and learn more about the links that exist between Bath and Alkmaar.



The photograph shows the (then) Mayor of Bath, Councillor Cherry Beath, at the November Alkmaar Café with her Consort and members of the Bath - Alkmaar Twinning Association, including on the left the Chairman Martin Broadbent. In the background is the flag of the City of Alkmaar.

At the November Alkmaar Café, the (then) Mayor and her Consort, husband Richard, tasted cheese brought for the occasion directly from the world renowned Alkmaar Cheese Market. The Mayor expressed herself delighted to meet members of the Bath - Alkmaar Twinning Association and that the occasion brought back memories of her staying in the Netherlands.

The Alkmaar Rotary Club visited the Rotary Club of Bath in May

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Bath, this visit by its counterpart from Alkmaar ran from 28-31 May 2015. The twinning activities between the two clubs are going back to the years just after the end of the Second World War. On the Friday an outing was organized to Avebury followed by lunch in Marlborough and in the evening the guests were entertained in the homes of their hosts. The following day a Gala Evening took place at the Lansdown Golf Club with, as per tradition, the hosts providing the entertainment. It was a great weekend and friendships were renewed and new ones made.

The 2015 International Children's Games

Young athletes from Bath participated in the 2015 International Children's Games. Accredited by the International Olympic Committee, 18 children aged from 12 to 15 travelled to Alkmaar in the Netherlands to participate in the 49th running of this annual competition, which was held from 24 -29th of June 2015.

More than 1500 athletes between the ages of 12 and 15 from about 80 cities worldwide took part. They competed in track and field, golf, football, tennis, swimming, gymnastics, judo, beach volleyball and volleyball events at different locations in Alkmaar.

Although the City of Bath is not a member of the International Children's Games organization, it was invited to take part in the 2015 event because of its twinning link with Alkmaar. The Charter Trustees of the City of Bath accepted this invitation and an informal working group to support the preparations of the 'City of Bath' team for the Games was set up. Councillor Dine Romero, our Vice Chairman, chaired the working group.

The 'City of Bath' team was 24 people strong: 18 athletes, 4 coaches, a 'Head of Delegation' (Councillor Dine Romero) and last but not least the first citizen, Mayor of Bath Councillor William Sandry. Beechen Cliff School, Hayesfield School, Bath Dolphin Swimming Club and Bath University Team Bath Judo Club sent athletes and coaches. The 'City of Bath' team competed successfully in girls' soccer, tennis, swimming and judo.



Minerva Bath Rowing Club won back the Challenge Shield

On their annual trip to Bath's twin city Alkmaar. Rowers from Bath spent three days in April 2015, taking in Dutch culture before Sunday's races against the 'Alkmaarse Roei en Zeil Vereniging (ARZV)'.



The Visit of the Regional Youth Orchestra Artiance

The playing of Alkmaar Regional Youth Orchestra, from our twin city in the Netherlands, delighted Bath audiences at two Concerts on the 1 & 2 May 2015.

The 68 Dutch musicians, aged between 10 and 18 years old, played on the Friday evening at Hayesfield School where the school's senior choir joined them. The concert ended with the audience of all ages together with the orchestra and choir giving a hearty rendition of Edward Elgar's 'Land of Hope and Glory', the young musicians later socializing and singing together with no noticeable language barrier.

Saturday's Concert took place in the glittering surroundings of Bath's Assembly Rooms in the presence of the (then) Mayor of Bath, Councillor Cherry Beath. Once again the young musicians, playing under the inspired leadership of their conductor Otto de Jong, performed with a maturity and precision that belied their years and impressed all who attended.

The orchestra's visit was organized to celebrate 70 years since links were first forged between the two cities in 1945 when, through local fundraising, food and money were sent from Bath to Alkmaar helping the Dutch city in the last year of the war when people were dying of starvation. Following the success of this musical weekend plans are already in hand to continue the links between schoolchildren in Bath and Alkmaar.





Bath Photographic Society staged its Annual Exhibition from 18-22 November 2014 at Bath Central Library. This year twenty digital images were provided by the 'Heilooër Amateur Fotografen (HAF)'. Heiloo is a village 5 km South of Alkmaar. Bath-based London Camera Exchange sponsored the exhibition.

The Bath - Alkmaar Twinning Committee sometimes helps to achieve wonderful results. Recently Mrs Janice Wareham from Bath wrote to ask if we could help her. She was a child during the Second World War and remembers a visit soon after the war ended. A group of children from Alkmaar came to Bath and were hosted by families in the city. Her family looked after a boy called Theo van Hilten. Could the Bath – Alkmaar Twinning Association help her discover whether or not Theo was still alive and find out if he would like to renew contact after all these years?

Happily we have been able to put them in touch once again and a friendship, which was started about 70 years ago, has been renewed. It is a wonderful story, which emphasizes that it has been a very successful year indeed!

So what is being planned for the next twelve months? It promises to be just as busy as last year, if not more so! Foremost, we would like to see a stronger involvement of the Charter Trustees of the City of Bath with twinning. We would also like to see a further increase in our membership - more members means more possibilities to support twinning activities. In addition we would like to focus more on support for children of a less privileged background who would want to take part in a twinning activity.

This means that we will look into how we can build on the visit to Bath of the Regional Youth Orchestra 'Artiance' and how we can assist with the possible involvement of young athletes of Bath in the International Children's Games. Secondly, we want to further develop links between schools in Bath and schools in Alkmaar and organize 'themed' sessions (for named groups) of the Alkmaar Café (held every first Tuesday of the month from 18.00 to 19.00 at the Bath Brew House). Lastly, we would like to look into possible twinning activities for football, cycling and museums.

This is all hard work and we acknowledge that publicity is key. Therefore, we are very keen to recruit a publicity officer for the Committee of the Bath – Alkmaar Twinning Association.

In more detail, the following twinning activities are, as of August 2015, planned for the next twelve months:

A visit of the Bath Artist Printmakers to Alkmaar on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the 'Grafisch Atelier Alkmaar'. They will participate in an exhibition in the 'Grote Sint Laurens Kerk' (10th of July to the 31st of August 2015).

A visit of the 'Alkmaarse Roei en Zeil Vereniging (ARZV)' to Bath. This visit is hosted by the Minerva Bath Rowing Club (25th to the 28th of September 2015).

A visit of the Bath Pétanque Club to Alkmaar, hosted by the L'Autre Chemin Club and Celeritas Club. They will play the L'Autre Chemin Club on the Saturday and compete in the Celeritas Club Open Competition on Sunday (2nd to the 6th of October 2015).

Participation of 'Heiloo's Amateur Fotografenvereniging (HAF)' in the yearly exhibition of the Bath Photographic Society (BFS) running in Bath in November 2015.

Develop twinning activities between the NHSRF Bath & District Branch and/or RUH NHS Foundation Trust in Bath and the 'Alkmaar Medisch Centrum' in Alkmaar. Visit of 'De Alkmaarse Waterratten (DAW)' of Alkmaar to Bath, hosted by the Bath Dolphin Swimming Club (Easter 2016). And, last but not least, an Alkmaar Café session at the Bath Brew House every first Tuesday of the month from 18.00 to 19.00. **We hope to meet you there!**

BRAUNSCHWEIG

The Bath-Braunschweig connection continues to flourish. The past 12 months have seen several successful school exchanges and Pétanque events, supported financially by the Bath-Braunschweig Twinning Association. The first number of the BBTA Newsletter came out in January in paper format; subsequent issues are on-line and sent quarterly to all BBTA members.



Bath School visits Braunschweig

In November 2014 a group of 21 KS4 German students from Ralph Allen School in Bath visited the Integrierte Gesamtschule Franzshes Feld (IGS:FF) Braunschweig. The students stayed with host families and participated in lessons at the school. Excursions included a trip to the Volkswagen factory in Wolfsburg and a visit to Phaeno, an interactive science museum sponsored by Volkswagen AG . The group also visited the amazing Christmas Market in Braunschweig and many children were treated to a full day excursion to either Hamburg or Berlin by their host families. Our students had a most enjoyable time and gained valuable cultural insights into the German way of life as well as improving their linguistic competence.

From left to right: Mrs J Watson (learning mentor Ralph Allen School), Mr A Meisner (Headteacher of IGS:FF), Mrs S Godwin (Curriculum Team Leader for Modern Languages Ralph Allen School)

German Sixth Former Visits Bath

Sixth former Pia Landsmann, also from the IGS:FF school in Braunschweig, spent three months earlier this year as a pupil at Saint Gregory's School in Bath. During her stay she studied History, Maths, Biology and English Language and Literature. Raymond Friel, Head teacher was instrumental in setting up this exchange.

Pia writes "Thank you very much to Mr Friel and the Staff at Saint Gregory's who helped to make my dream come true, and to Simon and Shirley Withers my fantastic host family".

Braunschweig School Visits Bath

In March this year 21 German students from IGS:FF in Braunschweig spent 9 days at Ralph Allen School. The weekend was spent with our KS4 student host families, who kindly showed their guests the delights of Bath and the surrounding area. Monday was spent in lessons, with the German students following their hosts' timetabled lessons. On Tuesday they explored Bath with their Ralph Allen peers. A visit to the Roman Baths was followed by a Civic Reception in the Mayor's Parlour. The afternoon was spent exploring the Fashion Museum. On Wednesday they went to Prior Park to enjoy the views over the city and explore the gardens. A visit to Bristol was arranged for Thursday with high tea in the afternoon, where they met Bryan Chalker, Chairman of the BBTA, and his wife Glenys. Friday was spent at the school, and various visits were arranged for Saturday. The German party left on Sunday. Parents and staff alike worked hard to make this a memorable and enjoyable visit.

Stammtisch

If you would like to come and practise your German with a 'Kaffe und Kuchen' in an informal atmosphere come to the 'Stammtisch' which is held throughout the year between 12.00 and 13.00 on Wednesday in the upstairs room of the Cafe Retro, 18 York Street, Bath (near Bog Island).



The Lambeth Walk

After a seven day 140 mile walk from Bath to London, four intrepid walkers arrived at Lambeth Palace to deliver by hand a letter to Archbishop Justin Welby inviting him to visit Bath to learn more about the Footprint Project for the restoration of Bath Abbey.

BBTA Committee Member Jeremy Key-Pugh (hatless) is second from the left.



The City of Bath Pétanque Club celebrated their 10th Anniversary with an international invitation to our Twin Cities. Fourteen visitors from Braunschweig, 13 from Aix en Provence and 3 from Kaposvár attended the celebration. They were joined by others from Jersey & Austria.

The visit included a trip to Salisbury, Stonehenge, tours of the City, and boules matches in Keynsham, Larkhall and Queen Square. The Mayor of Bath hosted the group at the Guildhall and presented prizes at Larkhall.

The visit finished with a Celebration Dinner with 65 attending at Aqua Walcot. The Braunschweig and Kaposvár Twinning Associations have extended an invitation to host the City of Bath Pétanque Club next year and this has been gratefully accepted.



Civic Visit to Braunschweig

A Civic Visit to our Twin City took place in October 2014 and comprised a party of four: The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Bath (Councillor Cherry Beath) accompanied by her Consort (Richard Beath) the then Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Charter Trustees Councillor Gerry Curran, and Chairman of the Bath-Braunschweig Twinning Association Bryan Chalker.

Our arrival in Braunschweig was met with typical German hospitality – wonderfully welcoming at every level. We were greeted at our hotel by members of the Lord Mayor's staff, notably Mrs Sabine Apel.

The main purpose of our visit was to commemorate the 70 Anniversary of the Bombing of Braunschweig and to celebrate the firm bond of genuine friendship, which now exists between this enchanting City and Bath. We were left to our own devices on the morning of Tuesday 14 October but then joined Vice-Mayor Mrs Rohse-Paul at the Al Duomo Restaurant and this was later followed by a reception and dinner at the Old City Hall, where Mayor Beath accompanied by Braunschweig's new Lord Mayor, Ulrich Markurth, signed the Golden Book of the City.

Over a two-day period much was discussed about future ties and this included fostering links between schools, colleges and universities, sharing technical knowledge and the possibility of a musical exchange.

On Wednesday 15 October we took lunch with Lord Mayor Markurth and Karl Griziwa, Chairman of the City Council, at the Café Strupait and in the evening met for dinner at the kind invitation of the Anglo-German Association, attended by Treve Erdmenger, Barbara Heck, Anna Rossie, Katrin Landsmann, Carmela Folgosa and Jane Henke.

It was a visit to be remembered and, on behalf of my colleagues, I would like to say a warm thank you to our friends in Braunschweig and special thanks to Gulcan Solak, Elke Gerlach and Sabine Apel, who were our official Braunschweig contacts.



*Back Row Left – Right: Katrina Landsmann, Dorothea Bahr, Treve Erdmenger, the (then) Mayor of Bath Councillor Cherry Beath, Richard Beath & former Cllr Gerry Curran
Front Row Left – Right: Carmela Folgosa, Chairman of the Braunschweig Twinning Association Bryan Chalker, Barbara Heck, Jane Henke & Anna Rossie*

KAPOSVÁR

Since its creation in 1989, the mission of the BKTA is and remains today to connect the people of Bath with the people of Kaposvár in Hungary.

The Twinning Partnership, led and run by volunteers from Bath and Kaposvár, aims to foster and create a foundation for friendship and respect across all generations.

The past year saw a continued strengthening of existing connections, while taking advantage wherever possible of new opportunities.

Building upon the 2013 success of the EU Citizen Workshop held at our Twin City Kaposvár, the Bath Central Library kicked off the New Year with a most welcome and invigorating reception to mark the work of the four Bath Twinning Associations. It gave the BKTA a handsome profile for its evolving three year inter-library partnership, aided and abetted by BKTA member Cyd Lee Fox's regular dispatch of books and CD/DVDs to the Kaposvár Library.

The Spring of 2014 saw the Friends of Saltford Library finally consolidate the link by opting to read an English translation of Magda Szabo's book entitled "The Door" and their Kaposvár colleagues responding in kind with an entertaining social media thank you.

Today June Wentland of the Bath Central Library sends articles/newsletters to Kinga Futo who in her spare time translates into Hungarian for local digestion – a maturing development.



Kaposvár colleagues thank you. Katalin Horváth, Kaposvár's chief Librarian & Peter Metcalfe

Bath – Kaposvár Student Endeavours

January witnessed BKTA member Nancy Connolly and family invite two Kaposvár Táncsics School students, Hajnalka Balogh and Kinga Kalina to Bath for six weeks. They took advantage of the chance to attend Hayesfield Girls' School and as they reported "the language.....maybe our biggest fear, but fortunately all the teachers, the students were so patient and helpful".

The encounter determined Mae Miklos, a Bath sixth form Hayesfield student to go to Kaposvár in July 2015 for a week of work experience at the City's Tourist Office. The BKTA stepped in with Hayesfield teacher Cathy Shail to facilitate. Upon return Mae said "I had a lovely time in Kaposvár, everyone I met was very hospitable and showed me so many interesting and amazing things within the town. In particular I am grateful for the guided tour of the Town Hall given to me by Norbert, which included a rare trip to the top of the tower, with views across Kaposvár. I am thoroughly looking forward to my next visit to Hungary and thank you again for all your help with organising my stay."



Kinga Kalina & Hajnalka Balogh at Hayesfield School & Kinga Kalina, Mae Miklos with Norbert

Akos Juhasz, a Hungarian Architect living in Frome also came to speak to Hayesfield 6th students who were contemplating Architecture as a future career. He discussed life as an architect and how he became hooked on his future career as he built by hand with his father a summer house and learnt valuable building craft skills. Akos has now returned with his family to Budapest to become Head of the Institute of Architecture at the Moholy-Nagy University.

The City of Bath Pétanque Club Goes to Hungary

The Club joined the BKTA early in the year and by October 2014 their team of 12 players arrived in Kaposvár to receive a warm welcome from the Deputy Mayor; then hence to Balatonfüred to play in a Hungarian led open doubles competition alongside the magnificent Lake Balaton. Here at the semi-finals two Bath players found themselves up against Hungarian champions; a hard fought match ensued with Bath losing by 10-13. Congratulations to Di and Terry. Two bottles of wine were presented to them by the competition sponsor who had mounted the evening before a most enjoyable impromptu wine tasting. The Bath group cited 'the camaraderie, the friendliness of the Hungarians, quality and cost of food/wine' all of which had augmented their first encounter with Hungary.



Don & Thelma Grimes in Kaposvár, Bath Pétanque members watch a Hungarian Champion



Two young Hungarians who had played at the Lake Balaton piste then find themselves invited by Club members to come and take part in their July 2015 10th Anniversary Celebration. Gabor and Hunor with Coach Janos arrive. They enjoy a splendid week with their hosts, aided by some BKTA sponsorship and play at the Bath Club's new Larkhall Sports Club piste facility to win the final tournament match with Aix-en-Provence on Saturday 18 July.

Hunor & Gabor with their host families in Bath

The 2015 Bath Twinning Associations Pétanque Tournament – 26 June at Queen Square

Despite the lack-lustre leadership shown by the BKTA Captain, our two Boule Teams climbed to the top of the tree and won this year's Bath Twinning Associations Annual Boule Tournament. Victory was snatched from the 2014 Alkmaar winners as the pulsating Hungarian blood rose majestically to the fore in the fifth and final round. Two great teams of four players - Roger, Gerry, Caroline and Zsolt S + Rob, Zsolt D, Fay and Anthony O'F created the success.

Peter held the gracious Pétanque Trophy; all had enjoyed a fun and good humoured time. Hilary Elms 2014 idea was now truly enthroned. Thank you Bath-Braunschweig Twinning Association. Again, it was brilliantly led by the City of Bath Pétanque Club. The Deputy Mayor of Bath, Councillor Shaun McGall thanked all of the four Twinning Associations and said "The Mayor of Bath and the 32 Charter Trustees of Bath are proud of what you do as volunteers to encourage and deliver cultural exchanges between the European Towns Twinned with Bath.



Peter with the Pétanque Trophy & Queen Square aftermath



Aix 1977



Alkmaar 1945



Bath



Braunschweig 1971



Kaposvar 1989