



# Home from Home



Number 22

The Newsletter of the Devon Twinning Circle

April 2009

## From The New Editor

It's well into the new year with Easter just around the corner whilst getting used to the clocks going forward to mark that Summer is fast approaching, well looking out of the window as I compile this newsletter "it's already here" but I will not get my shorts out just yet or turn the Central Heating completely off, but hey Spring has sprung!! As the evenings are getting lighter.

Just a reminder of my details for sending your news and updates. My address is "Fuchsia House" 18 West View Road, Bere Alston, Yelverton, W Devon PL20 7DD. Tel/fax 01822 840862. Thank you all for sending your Club Newsletters and news to me, please accept my apologies if they do not appear in this issue but time is short, therefore please keep sending your items to me. If you can send items to me electronically all the better, my email is [peter@pdennis8.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:peter@pdennis8.wanadoo.co.uk) as this will help in putting the newsletter together.

## From your Committee

To all fellow Twinners.

Well my first twelve months is nearly up. I serve as Devon Twinning Circle chairperson for a two year period and have enjoyed my first Year. I hope I have also been of assistance to you. I was able to go on Radio Devon on Wednesday 25th February, on the morning show with Michael Chequer, to talk about Twinning, also to say who wanted to twin in France Etc, we also mentioned grants. The EU grant system raises a lot of questions, and the application forms can be complicated. Also there is Awards for all, from the lottery to which Associations can apply for a grant. During this programme I was also able to talk about the activities and advantages of the Circle and highlight the need for additional twin communities in Devon, or indeed, in the Southwest. Here's looking to the next twelve months of successful twinning between all. Happy fund raising to you, please don't hesitate to get in contact if you have any problems.

Since the last meeting the Exeter group have volunteered to host the meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July, the Committee would like to send their thanks to the Association for being able to be a host.

Future Meetings in 2009:-

April 18th. AGM Sampford Peverell  
July 17th. Isca Centre, Whipton, Exeter  
October 17th. Tiverton

The dates for 2010 meetings have been set. We need Twinning Associations to volunteer to be hosts for the following dates:-

January 16<sup>th</sup> 2010  
April 17<sup>th</sup> 2010  
July 17<sup>th</sup> 2010  
October 16<sup>th</sup> 2010

Just to remind future hosts to consult the Devon Twinning Circle "blue folders" for more details regarding hosting our quarterly meetings.

Please contact Pat Sherwood if your Association are considering hosting any of the meetings in 2010.

## Annual General Meeting

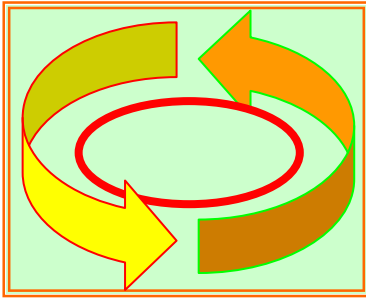
**The Devon Twinning Circle Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at Sampford Peverell with Guest Speaker Ashley Fox MEP.**

Ashley is a Conservative MEP's in the South West of England. Please Google Ashley for more information about him and MEP's roles and responsibilities.

Hazel.  
Chairperson

### The Monica Saunders Trophy

This trophy shall be awarded each year at the A.G.M to the association or individual member who, in the opinion of the Committee, has made the most notable contribution to twinning in Devon during the previous year. Nominations for individuals must be made by other members or other Twinning Associations. In addition to the trophy there will be a monetary prize of £150. Entries should be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> March of each year to the Devon Twinning Circle Secretary.



## Around The Circle

**Bow & District Twinning Association.** Una Hobbs reports that after all the hard work and fun of last years celebrations of both sides of the channel with the marking the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Charter signing between the two associations, they have decided to visit on alternative years and are travelling over this year between 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May. Meanwhile each month they have fundraising events and social occasions to keep the interest going within the association. Some events already planned are Annual Quiz, a French Meal, and Whist Drives. They are also busy with turning out all their old photographs which have been accumulated over the year's in readiness for an photographic Archive being put together to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Bideford / Landivisiau twinning.** Stewart reports that on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February the Bideford / Landivisiau twinning were also featured on the Michael Chequer midday Radio Devon programme. It came about in the following way: the new Brittany Ferries ship, the Armorique, was due to make its maiden trip from Plymouth to Roscoff overnight on the 10 / 11th. Feb and Michael was going to be on board making a programme during the crossing, interviewing the Captain, other members of the crew and various passengers. He also contacted us in Bideford to ask if we could put him in touch with our French twins in Landivisiau which is a mere 20/25 minute inland from Roscoff. His intention was to complete his programme there broadcasting from a French cafe.

Our French friends, always willing and ready for a bit of fun, quickly agreed and rallied round. The broadcast included interviews with several Landivisians and, via the telephone, with people from Bideford as well as from Staddon Heights Golf Club with whom there are numerous sporting contacts. A number of the Bideford twinningers also took part in the customary 'phone-in.

We felt that this was good publicity both for Bideford/ Landivisiau and for twinning in general and are grateful to Michael for enabling this little venture. He subsequently, on his morning programme, gave a slot to Hazel (Evely) our Devon Twinning Circle chairman.

**Kingsteignton Twinning Association** reports that their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary visit to Orbec this year. They currently have 24 adults and 2 children booked to go

to Orbec. The cost of the trip will be capped at £100 and could be considerably less, depending upon numbers travelling. This includes coach fare to Portsmouth and ferry to Ouistreham, plus return. A visit to Monet's Garden at Giverney is promised and there will be other activities as well including a meal together. I look forward to hearing how this visit goes and what else helped to celebrate their Anniversary. They also have the following events organised throughout the year. A Quiz to be organised by Charles Wray at the Oakford Club, Kingsteignton at 7.30 pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> April, bar available. Please contact him direct if you wish to join in. Charles has also offered to organise a Walking Treasure Hunt in July followed by an optional supper at a local hostelry.

**South Molton Twinning Association.** Reports that in January they held their AGM where secretaries Angela and John Hulme stepped down after a 6 year stint in the seat. Many thanks goes to them for their hard work over this time. Richard Rudd was elected as their replacement. No other changes to the committee were made.

On 12<sup>th</sup> February they had a planning meeting for the year ahead. A full outline of the upcoming program can be found on their website: [www.southmoltontwinning.org.uk](http://www.southmoltontwinning.org.uk). On the 3<sup>rd</sup> April they will be holding a Quiz Evening at the George Hotel, South Molton starting at 7.30pm, £5 entry for teams of 4. They would like to invite twinner's from around the circle to come and test their knowledge!

They also have had a number of celebrations to start the year off with Stephen and Margaret White celebrating 40 years and Claude and Maureen Squire celebrating 50 years of marriage! Many congrats to both couples. Also on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February they had their annual meal which was a great success. At the end of May the association are all looking forward to visiting their friends in Livarot.

**Ilfracombe/lfs Twinning Associations.** Carol reports on their last years activities. As we alternate every year, this time it was the turn of the French to visit Ilfracombe at the beginning of May. A group of 40 arrived on the Thursday evening for a 2 day visit. A leisurely morning and lunch with the host family was followed by a visit to the lifeboat and to the museum with a social evening dancing to the Bloater Town Band.

Brunch with the family the next morning got the day off to a good start. The sun came out for a picnic in the harbour at Clovelly before dinner and dancing at the Woolacombe Bay Hotel. The departure on the Monday morning arrived far too soon.

July and August proved too wet this year for our usual annual barbecue get-together, but we did manage a Sunday lunch in October. The middle of December again saw intrepid volunteers braving a rough crossing to support the French twinningers at their annual marché de Noël and raise funds for the Ilfracombe group. It was a much bigger event this year with 25

different stands ranging from local craftsmen to other countries and held over 2 days. Hard work, very tiring, but lovely to be there enjoying the ambiance.

**Ottery St Mary Twinning Association:-** Report from Sylva who hopes that 2009 will be good to you and bring you Health and Happiness as well as Peace and Understanding between people of all nations. They shall, of course, be making their own small contribution to this ideal as they plan this year's exchanges between them and their friends in Ilsfeld and Pont l'Évêque. Both visits are scheduled for May this year, so with the visits, a Treasure Hunt and Crêpe Stall both in June, they shall have a busy couple of months to look forward to!

Following meetings with the German delegation which came to Ottery in January 2008, they are delighted to note that several links have been set up between establishments and organisations in their two towns. As a result of continuing discussions, a small party of teachers and students from the King's School have visited Ilsfeld and neighbouring Beilstein in March. Ottery Scouts and Scouts from Ilsfeld are planning a joint camp in Ottery in August. They hope to be able to give further reports on these encouraging developments in due course.

Future Events include a visit from Ilsfeld between Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June. In the hope that they will find some clement weather, their German friends have chosen to come at the beginning of May. They will fly into Birmingham on this occasion and hope to be in Ottery during the evening on the Thursday. They will leave early on Bank Holiday Monday. The program for the visit is still at the planning stage, but group visits for the Friday are under discussion and a Civic Reception before dinner at Otter Nurseries on the Saturday evening are already confirmed. Another visit is also planned for Ottery from Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May to Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May, when they travel over to visit Pont L'ÉVÊQUE but as yet they have only outline details of the programme their French friends have prepared for them, but they are delighted that they shall again be able to enjoy a longer stay in this hospitable town, whilst having an opportunity to do some Hypermarket shopping in Cherbourg on their way home. Whilst in June they will be giving a French flavour to the West Hill Fête, with a Crêpe Stall. It also looks like they are holding a Car Treasure hunt as well.

**Horrabridge Twinning Association:-** Roger Young reports that they are busy with their Annual Reports for their Annual General Meetings and organised a Skittles Evening in February, followed by their Annual Quiz in March, whilst holding a 60/70 night at the end of March. They are now busy planning their trip to Tilly Sur Seullles over the May Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May.

**Dolton and District Twinning Association:-** Phil reports that over Easter period 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> April they are hosting a party from Amfreville twinning (Jumelage), an invitation also has been sent to their friends in Hillerse (Germany) and are likely to receive

some of their members (possibly travelling over on the French coach). A provisional programme has been proposed which briefly will include visits out in groups to places of outstanding beauty and interest, a joint meal with entertainment, time with host families and not forgetting the combined committee meeting to thrash out future exchange dates and initiatives. Phil would also guess that their guests might want to spend some time shopping as their Euro's will go a lot further this time than any other visit they have made to us.

Future events they have include a Gourmet Meal (Orient Express): A themed gourmet meal, menu to include dishes from European and exotic places visited by the Orient Express. Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June. A Barbeque with Boules and Croquet evening (an early celebration of Bastille Day). A Casino Evening (with Roulette & Blackjack): An evening of cocktails and canapés – black tie event followed by their Annual General Meeting in November.

Lastly an extract from the Devon Funding News which gives details of where one should apply for grants, thanks to Tim and Pheroza for spotting this article.

*The 'Europe for Citizens' programme aims to help European citizens become actively involved in the process of European integration and develop a sense of belonging and a European identity. Funding is administered through four sub-programmes:*

*Action 1 "Active citizens for Europe" involves citizens directly, either through activities linked to town-twinning or through other kinds of citizens' projects.*

*Action 2 "Active civil society in Europe" is targeted to Europe-wide civil society organisations, receiving either structural support on the basis of their work programme or support trans-national projects.*

*Action 3 "Together for Europe" supports high visibility events, studies and information tools, addressing the widest possible audience across frontiers and making Europe more tangible for its citizens.*

*Action 4 : "Active European Remembrance" supports the preservation of the main sites and archives associated with deportations and the commemoration of the victims of nazism and stalinism.*

*The calls for proposals for projects in 2009 has been published along with an updated programme guide.*

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index\\_en.htm](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index_en.htm)

*Various, dependent on activity*

*EUCLID, UK Contact ( Point, tel: 07000 382543 or email: info@euclid.info*

Any successful applications we would love to know about or perhaps you could write a short article for us. Everyone seems to be having a busy time coming up therefore look forward to hearing all about these activities later in the year for inclusion in future editions. Again if I have missed anyone out sorry but time and space is short (ed).