



Home from Home



Number 23

The Newsletter of the Devon Twinning Circle

July 2009

From The New Editor

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 as this will help in putting the newsletter together.

From your Committee

To all fellow Twinner's.

I have been contacted from a twinning committee from Saint-Luc/Guichainville in Normandy who were twinned with Yetholm in Scotland but they had to stop for various reasons. Marie-Clude writes:- We are looking for another municipality to create new links, cultural exchanges and promote the English language. To briefly introduce ourselves: Saint-Luc and Guichainville is rural, of about 3700 people and located near Evreux. Is a twinning with a village or a town in Devon is possible? I am at your disposal for further information and we (the members) would be willing to travel to meet you. Thanking you in advance for your attention.

Marie-Claude Beaucousin

Twinning Committee Franco-British Saint-Luc / Guichainville (Please email Pete Dennis for further information).

General Meeting

The Devon Twinning Circle next General Meeting will be held on Saturday 18th July 2009 at 14:00 hrs in the Isca Centre, Summer Lane, Whipton, Exeter EX2 7NL with a Guest Speaker from the Exeter Twinning Circle with a short talk on the European Health Insurance Card.

Future Meetings in 2009:-

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 16th 2010

April 17th 2010

July 17th 2010

October 16th 2010

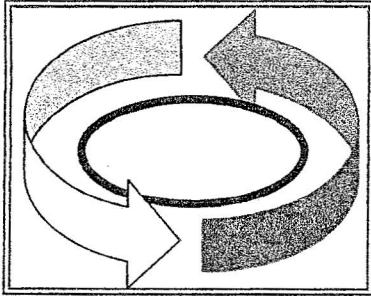
Just to remind future hosts to consult the Devon Twinning Circle "blue folders" for more details regarding hosting our quarterly meetings.

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

The Monica Saunders Trophy - two entries were received this year from Bow and Ottery St Mary. Congratulations to the winners Ottery St Mary. If you think your association or any member has made a contribution to twinning in Devon during the year, please send your nomination to the Committee for consideration. Entries should be submitted by 31st March to the Secretary Pat Sherwood.

An important reminder that - Public Liability Premiums are now due. Our policy seems to be value for money. Remember DO NOT admit liability but leave this to the Assurance Company to sort out. Please can all Associations issue proper receipts for any Travel Insurance (on headed paper only). The insurance company insist on this if a claim is made. Cheques for insurance MUST be made payable to DTC only and sent to Dennis Knowles. For more information look in the Blue Book or on the Devon Twinning Association internet pages.

Hazel,
Chairperson



Around The Circle

Bow & District Twinning Association. Una Hobbs has sent me a lovely letter and reports that twenty nine people journeyed over to France from the 21st to 25th May to celebrate 31 years of twinning between Bow and St Martin de Bienfasite la Bressonsuere in Normandy. The ferry crossings were wonderful and smooth, as was the weather throughout the visit, although on the day of their return they experienced a French Thunder Storm. During their visit trips were arranged to Bambremer in "Le Pays D'auge" which is said to be one of the most attractive gardens in France, then after a nice lunch in Honfleur a delightful boat trip under the Normandie Bridge. The next day was spent at leisure with their host families before meeting again in the evening to enjoy a local meal in the village hall. A piece of Honiton Lace, tastfully framed was presented by Alison Blain (Chair) to the President of St Martin de Bierfaite la Gressosinieres Association to mark the occasion. After 30 years of two way visits each year both Associations have agreed to visit in alternative years in future, therefore starting with their French friends making the return visit next year. Thank you Una for the update and I hope I have all the spellings correct, if not please accept my apologies. Ed.

Kingsbridge Twinning Association who are twinned with Isigny sur Mer and Weilerbach reports that they have had a busy and successful year in 2008 and this year seems even better, as in May Isigny sur Mer visited for a long weekend with a packed itinerary of visits and evenings of hospitality. The town was also host to a French Market so they could stock up with the French soaps, cheeses, breads, pates, terrines etc, as it is now traditional to promote twinning in this way. The Association also take part with "Kingsbridge in Bloom" with containers full of flowers with the twinning names displayed in all their glory. They are planning to visit Weilerbach in Germany later in the year and have regular gatherings for French and German conversation.

Honiton Twinning Association reports that they sent an eleven strong team to their French twin of Mezidon-Canon (near Caen) during May. They enjoyed a sumptuous lunch whilst touring "Suisse Normande" and also visited the Omaha Cemetery and some coastal gun emplacements. The evening entertainment included "Bootyleg Abba" at their new Community Hall. Thank you John for the update.

Chittlehampton Twinning Association visited France for the 65th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings. Four members stayed with friends in Chittlehamptons twinned village, Baron Sur Odon. They saw preparations being made amongst strict security for the visit of President Obama, visited a Military Cemetery, and walked along Omaha Beach. A very moving, memorable experience at this special time.

They were all delighted to be in Baron on the 3rd of June, when 58 Military Vehicles (from various parts of the world) arrived in convoy and drove through the village, including dignitaries from the Cobbaton Combat Museum and the Chairman of the Military Vehicle Trust who organised this visit to Baron Sur Odon with the help of their Twinning Committee.

The group were received and given a Very Warm Welcome by the Mayor and Members of the Baron Sur Odon Jumelage, who jointly provided Drinks (including Champagne) and light refreshments at the official gathering in the Marie (village hall). This was appreciated by all concerned.

Presentations were made of a Genuine Royal Navy, White Ensign Flag and a Genuine Royal Air Force Pennant to the Mayor of Baron for the village. The event concluded with a visit to Hill 112 where the Churchill Tank Memorial is situated, overlooking the city of Caen. Many villagers piled into military vehicles and were driven there to pay tribute to and remember those who lost their lives in the fierce battle that took place there and in the surrounding area during World War 2. Two wreaths were laid at the memorial, one in memory of all the allied servicemen who fought in Normandy and one for the French Civilians who lost their lives and those who suffered during the 1939 - 1945 war. Thanks to John and Edna for Edna's Chronicle report and the photo's of which I could not include - ed.

Club Wesseling reports that they are busy preparing for a shorter than usual trip to Wesseling, Germany this October after celebrating the 25th Anniversary of exchanges between the two associations when the clubs last met in 2008.

Exeter Twinning Association reports that last May 26 guests from Rennes arrived at Exeter Airport for a fun packed time while visiting the summer residence of Agatha Christie on the beautiful Dart estuary and Greenways house with its lovely gardens. They also visited the Devon County Show and met Exeter's new Lord Mayor, who has a Breton wife and married in Rennes, who hosted a reception at the Guildhall in Exeter with invitations to the inaugural Mayoral Service in the Cathedral. Other pleasant occasions such as an evening tour of Exeter, visits to the Topsham Museum and a cruise up the river Exe with musical accompaniment followed by a buffet or as the French would say "chapeau" were enjoyed by all.