



## Saint Aubin - Emsworth Twinning Association

### Chair's letter October 2018

# Allô ! Allô !

#### Dear Members,

Almost twelve months have passed since I last wrote for this journal. One thing that has changed on this page, is the title of our Association. In line with historic precedent [and what it says on our cheque-book], the correct name is, as above. Some changes to reflect this have already been made on the website except for the web address itself which is for the time being still [www.emsworthstaubin.org.uk](http://www.emsworthstaubin.org.uk)

With a bit of help from my committee file to jog my memory, I am able to recall the following events which have been held or participated in during late 2017-18:-

- **November 24<sup>th</sup> 2017** – **Skittles evening** and buffet supper at Emsworth Community Centre.
- **March 24<sup>th</sup> 2018** – **AGM and Dinner** held in Emsworth Sailing Club at which some changes to our Constitution were ratified. A copy of our modified Constitution can be found on the Association's website: [www.emsworthstaubin.org.uk](http://www.emsworthstaubin.org.uk)
- You will also find there, details of the committee members elected at the AGM.
- **May 4<sup>th</sup>** – **Call My Wine Bluff** held at Chidham Village Hall. Presented by Alan Burrows and his team of wine experts, this was a very popular and successful event, both socially and financially for the Association. Amongst the raffle prizes on offer were bottles of Champagne given to us by our friends from St Aubin.

- **May 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>** – **visit to St Aubin.**

Some 25 of us set sail from Portsmouth on the Friday afternoon ferry. Saturday we were taken into Pays d'Auge, some 70kms to the south-east, stopping at St Pierre-sur-Dives to admire the medieval market hall and the many antique shops. Our destination was Vimoutiers [seriously bombed by the Allies during WW2] and the Camembert cheese museum. The guided tours [in English and French] were followed by

a cheese tasting and then by a generous buffet lunch in the museum courtyard.

With no time for a siesta, we hastened up the road a few kilometres to Crouttes and another tasting session, this time at an apple farm, le Domaine de la Galotière. Apple juice, ciders, Pommeau de Normandie [16.5%] and, of course, the golden fluid named after the neighbouring département [40%] passed our lips in surprisingly quick succession! Hazily we followed the guided tour of the production process, led by one of the two young people who now run this family business. In good "spirits", we were soon brought down to earth as we witnessed all the horrors of the *Couloir des Morts* – the "Alleyway of the Dead" which is depicted in a *son et lumière* at the Mont Ormel war memorial and museum. This episode from WW2 tells of the battle fought by Polish soldiers and retreating Germans.

Sunday was, as usual, a quiet time with our host families, keeping up our stamina for "*la grande bouffe*" à la *Salle Polyvalente* that evening. From the *hors d'œuvres*



that lasted an hour, the **sumptuous strawberry cake** up to the **singing** which started at 11.45, we gave as good as we got, some of us helped our hosts to clear up

well past midnight.

If some of us were hoping for a light lunch before catching the return ferry on Monday,



we found it was not to be! Sunday night's leftovers plus some delicious dishes prepared by our hosts, aperitifs and wine, were laid out before us in another hall on the northern edge of St Aubin. Luckily most of us had undergone the training before leaving England so that we could cope with this "*explosion Alkaseltzérienne*" as we say in "Français"!

The sea was fortunately calm à *La Manche* and some still had a space for a morsel or two in the ferry restaurant as the sun set over the Spinnaker Tower.

Thanks, in particular, go to our liaison officer, Kate Van Gend and Travel Officer, Keith Richardson, for navigating our 2018 stay chez les St Aubinais!

*John Auric*

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• **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August**

**JEU DE BOULES: nearly “bouled” over by the weather!**

Our annual boules’ match against Denmead was thwarted due to



a clash of dates so we decided to have our own little tournament. Bedhampton Bowls Club kindly agreed to let us use their *boules* pitches and pavilion and we were able to use the lawn area adjacent to the boules pitches for our supper.

Despite the unpromising weather, the intrepid members of the twinning association put up their tables for a damp picnic and polished their boules (some more shiny than others). In the end, we managed to play until nearly 8 pm with only a few spots of rain, sending us into the shelter of the rather fine pavilion for a short while. (Photo of winning team above).



Thanks go to our Maître de Boules, Richard Galloway and **intrepid scorer Gary Willard under umbrella**, for organising and recording the play.

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**FUTURE EVENTS**

Your Committee is currently planning an **“Auction of Promises”** for Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> [flyer/booking form below Page 5].

We are planning **two other events** for the New Year, apart from the **AGM and Annual Dinner** and of course, **the visit by les St Aubinais Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Members of the Committee 2018-2019**

<b>Chair</b>	John Auric	01243-379018
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Judi Milburn	02392-471645
<b>Treasurer</b>	Martin de Laporte	01243 373618
<b>Secretary</b>	Gail Wynne-Jones	01243-430558
Membership	Judi Milburn	as above
Travel Officer	Keith Richardson	
Events Coordinator	Hazel Willard	
Liaison Officer	Carol Sheppard	
Media Officer	Colin Eldridge	
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Webmaster	Geoff Wiggins	
Newsletter editor	Siriol Seabrook	

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**Le Français – lesson 2 – the early years – John Auric**

Last time, I introduced you all to the mysteries of “Français”, that unique language invented by the late Miles Kington, Professor de Français at the University de l’Esperanto.

Now I would like you to know a little more of Prof Kington’s early years and how this opened him up to the potential of Français in communicating with our continental neighbours.

Prof Kington a passé toute sa life time dans le recherche de Français. Son obsession avec Français datée de l’âge de 3½, quand il a fait son premier day-trip à Boulogne. “Les choses étaient difficiles” il rémenice. “Pour une chose, c’était 1944 et la ville était crawling avec Boches. Pour une autre chose, je n’avais pas un passeport. Well, j’étais seulement un toddler.

Anyway, j’étais dans ce bar, right, et j’ai dit au barman, hey Monsieur Barman – je veux faire le spending d’un penny ! Mais le barman ne comprenait pas mon lingo et me donna un *Pernod*. C’était fantastique! Well, j’ai acheté six Pernods et le jour après j’avais mon premier Hang over. Mais j’avais découvert le Français !

Kington a passé son adolescence à Dieppe et à Newhaven, notebook à la main, écrivant les mots des trippers, addicté à cette language parlée seulement pas les holidaymakers anglais et par M. Edouard Heath. A-t-il jamais rencontré le fameux Monsieur ‘Eath ?

“Non, hélas, mais j’ai rencontré le Général de Gaulle. C’est le high-spot de ma vie, prof. Ah, quel héros, ce general !! Quel dignité ! Quelle noblesse! Quel grand hooter! It *était un exemple pour tous les* blokes qui *ont les oversize conks* .....

J’étais à Paris une fois. Général de Gaulle passait dans la rue. Il avait six bodyguards, tous midgets comparés à lui. Eh bien, j’ai pénétré ce cordon et j’ai dit au général: Mon général, mon général ! Donnez-nous votre autographe ! Ce n’est pas pour moi, c’est pour ma fille, qui à un grand snout comme vous! Il me regarda. Puis il tourne aux gorilles et dit [c’est unforgettable]: qui est-ce loony? Donnez-lui un petit souvenir.  
“Après ça, les gangsters ont sauté sur moi et m’ont donné un working-over. J’ai toujours un petit limp. Mais c’était un moment unique pour moi.”

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### Rendezvous with Mont Ventoux *par John Auric*

En route for les Alpes de Hautes Provence in June, Clare and I had been recommended by friends to visit a medieval bastide village, Vaison-la-Romaine. We made a slight detour from our overnight stop in the Rhône Valley and found Vaison, one of a cluster of delightful hilltop villages in the shadow of Mont Ventoux. This *monster*, at 1,912 metres, has seen the downfall of many a ‘Tour de France’ hopeful. Avid followers of Le Tour will remember the drug-fuelled duel [say that quickly !] between Lance Armstrong and Marco Pandani up and down its deceptive slopes in 2000 and the mystery of whether and if so why, Armstrong allowed the Italian to pip him on this stage of the race?

What we weren’t to know was that over 2,000 amateur hopefuls had set out that morning to attempt to conquer the *monster*.

Arriving at the **village square**, an amazing sight met our eyes.



Several hundred cyclists, many “of a certain age” in lycra of multiple hues – sitting under the hallowed planes, tucking in to a **cyclist’s formula lunch**, served in identical plastic

tray sets. There was a “cage de triage” where sixty-somethings were having their Achilles tendons, hernias and ‘maux de Tour’ massaged by young ladies in white coats and serious faces. How civilised, I thought; Clare was not so impressed!

She led me away, insisting we should explore the myriad of little cobbled streets in the “**Cité Médiévale**” which meant a serious amount of hill climbing, but I was hungry!



We ate on a charming terrace overlooking the river Ouvèze, to the accompaniment of a thousand frogs [not the cyclists this time!] On parting from this fascinating village, we



approached the roundabout on the edge of town and a **lone cyclist** came into view, beads of sweat upon his brow but he had a triumphant look about

him.

With the silhouette of the *monster* in our sights, it reminded us that like “Jack and the Beanstalk”, it is possible to outwit a giant and return from the mountain with satisfaction!

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### Voyage à St Aubin-sur-Mer par Siriol & Roy Seabrook

Disappointed at my having to miss the biennial *jumelage* trip at the end of May this year, the Marie family in St Aubin kindly invited us over for a long weekend in mid-August.

As we hadn’t driven in France for many years, I looked into the latest regulations. After equipping our car



**EMSWORTH TWINNING ASSOCIATION NOVEMBER EVENT 2018**

**Auction of Promises and cold supper on Saturday 3 November 2018**

**VENUE:** Mountford Rooms 1 & 2 at Emsworth Community Centre

**DATE:** **Saturday November 3 2018 from 18.45 – 22.00**

**EVENT:** **‘Auction of Promises’** - an opportunity to bid for ‘acts of kindness’ donated by Members & Friends of Emsworth-St Aubin Twinning Association, plus a cold supper. **Please bring your own drinks and glasses.**

**Payment for the items in the auction will be by cheque or cash only on the night.** Successful bidders will receive vouchers with details of the item and an expiry date.

**COST:** £10 per person, which includes entrance fee, supper, Auction Catalogue and Vouchers for your successful bids.

**BRING FRIENDS OR FAMILY MEMBERS AND COME ALONG AND ENJOY THE FUN!**

**Please detach & return the attached slip & cheque payable to : ‘St Aubin - Emsworth Twinning Association’ to Martin de Laporte, Lane Ends, 54 Holly Bank Lane, Emsworth PO10 7UE by Friday 26 October . For any queries. contact Hazel Willard (01243 379877) or Carol Sheppard ( 01243 698487)**

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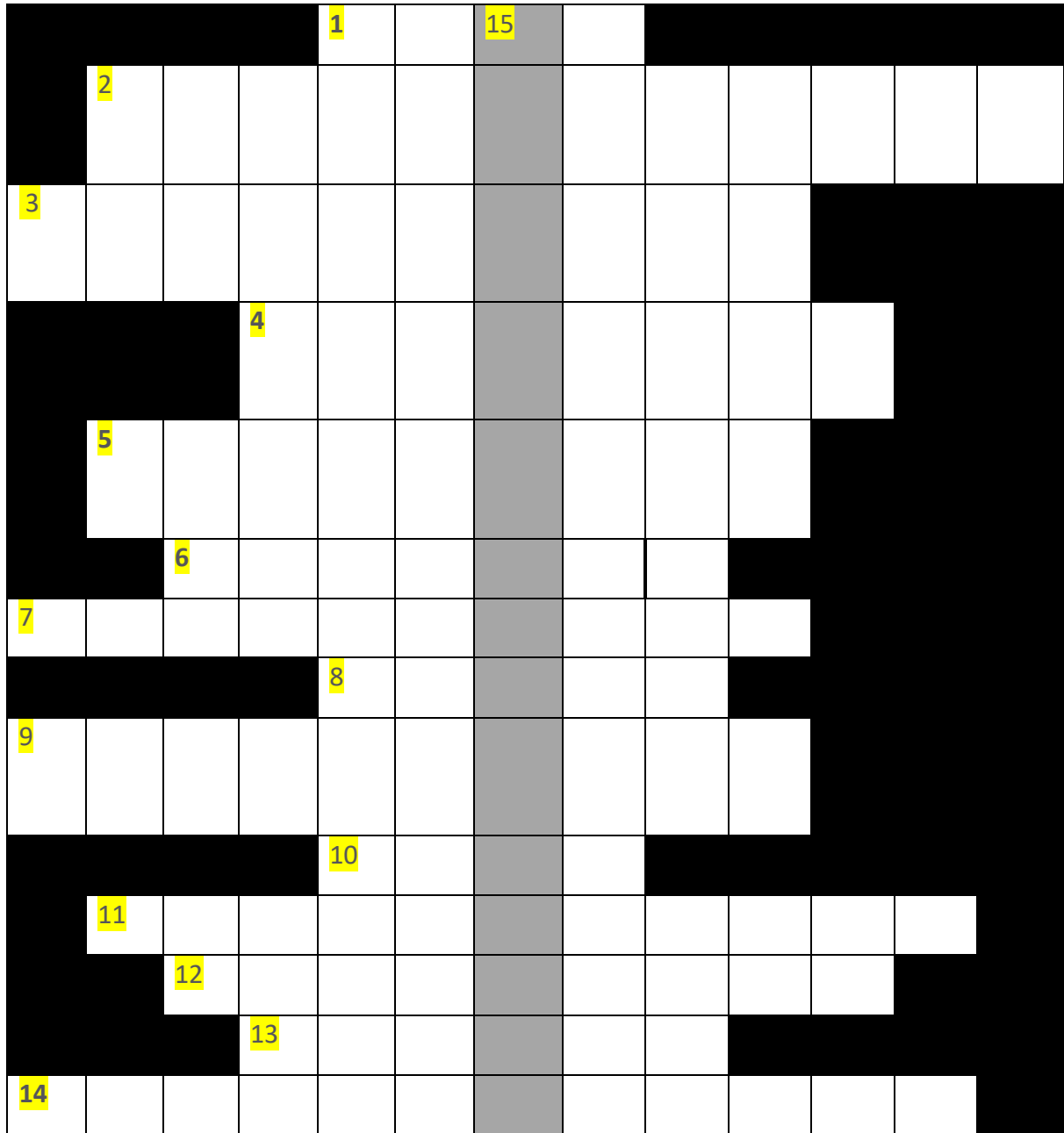
**Please return this Booking Form & cheque for ‘Auction of Promises’ on Saturday 3 November 2018 from 18.45 – 22.00 at the Mountford Rooms, Emsworth Community Centre by 26 October 2018.**

**Please reserve .....Member’s places @ £10 p.p. Print name.....**

**Please reserve ....Guest’s places @ £10 p.p. Print name.....**

**Total submitted: £..... Signed.....**

## PARIS: Crossword Quiz for Emsworth Twinning Assn – September 2018



**Find the answers to the clues 1 to 14 across and you will have the keyword at 15 down - this is a nickname for Paris – 2,5,7.**

1. Opened in 1932, 13km south of Paris, this airport replaced Le Bourget as the City's principal airport from the 1950's to the 1980's. Then it was superseded by Paris-Charles-de-Gaulle [4]
2. The best views of the City may be enjoyed from the rooftop of the Tour ..... Completed in 1973, the 59 storey, 210 metre skyscraper, was France's tallest until 2011 [12]
3. Since 2011, the record for the nation's tallest skyscraper has been held by the 225 metre Tour First in La Défense. This edifice is situated in the southern part of which commune, some 8 kms from the City Centre? [10]
4. This clue is the somewhat pejorative name for the City's inhabitants, thought to have derived from working class Parisians who spoke "argot" [8]
5. Determined to make the City the most beautiful in Europe, this chief minister of Louis XIII built five bridges, a chapel for the College of the Sorbonne and a palace for himself. [9] *continued ....*

6. Famous nightlife district, whose raunchy attractions include the Moulin Rouge, is named after the 8<sup>th</sup> c. sculptor, Jean-Baptiste [7]
7. First Bishop of Paris and the City's and nation's patron saint – was martyred in 250 AD [5-5]
8. System that rents yellow bicycles across Paris. Introduced by Mayor Bernard Delanoë in 2007 [5]
9. Term denoting area on the Seine south bank, famed for its artists, philosophers and writers and for its bohemian culture. [4-6]
10. Since 1956, Paris has been twinned with only one city, simply because “seule Paris est digne de ...; seule ... est digne de Paris” [4]
11. Bertrand Delanoë became the City's first Socialist mayor in 2001. What was the name of his deputy, elected in April 2014 and the first woman to hold this office? [4-7]
12. Created between 1855-1866, the “Bois de ....” is the City's largest public park, three times larger than New York's Central Park. [9]
13. Who gave his name to the metro station on Ligne 2. Famous socialist politician, defender of Dreyfus, co-founder of the newspaper l'Humanité and anti-war campaigner. First name Jean, he was assassinated in 1914 in a café in rue Montmartre.[6]
14. Name of the ring road around Paris' administrative limits, it has two concentric four lane carriageways, known as the *intérieur* and *extérieur* and was completed in 1973. [12]

**To enter this competition, please bring a copy of your completed Paris quiz to the Auction of Promises on 3rd November 3' where a prize awaits the first correct entry to be drawn from the hat.**