



Emsworth - Saint Aubin Twinning Association

Emsworth – Saint Aubin Twinning Association Newsletter Autumn 2014

Chairman's Letter

Dear Members

Many thanks to those of you who took part and supported our amazing 'We'll Meet Again' concert and supper at the Assembly Rooms in the ECC on October 4th.

Over 80 Members and Guests formed the audience and performers for a 1940s style evening of recitations, sketches, songs, piano solo and a dance demonstration. One member of our audience commented that it was good to see a local community pulling together to put on a brilliant 'homespun' performance!

The 'balloon went up' with a hearty supper provided by Wright Caterers and organised by Anne Gains. Our guest pianist, Brian Budden played a medley of tunes whilst we ate and also accompanied several of the acts. Norman Bartlett was our enthusiastic Master of Ceremonies who organised and introduced everyone.

The Twinning Choir, supported by several members of the 'Village Voices Choir', helped to launch the concert by singing three songs from their 1940s' repertoire (see below).



This was followed by Judi Milburn demonstrating the 'Charleston' (photo right) before inviting members of the audience to take part. Next, Alan Borrow with Diana Coggsell as 'Cinderella' and their guests, Richard and Sandie Swaine performed an unforgettable version of 'Cinderella' in about five minutes. This had the audience rocking with laughter, especially as Prince Charming's hat kept falling down and covered his/her face! (Photo below).



We came down to earth with Tony Lister's recitation of John McCrae's poem – 'In Flanders Fields,' which although written in 1915 is still relevant for any war. Tony dressed the part in army uniform and bloodied head bandage.



To cheer us all up, John Gains and I sang 'We're a couple of swells,' who walked up 'The Avenue' to have tea with the Vanderbilts.

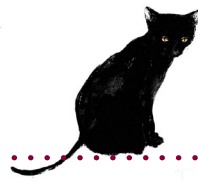
Alan Borrow then entertained us with his version of 'The Wreck of the Hesperus' accompanied by a variety of hats, which again caused great hilarity!

Our visiting guest stars, Daniel, Sylvie and Gerard from St Aubin then played guitars and sang several French songs. They were followed by Anne Gains giving a very life like rendition of a Joyce Grenfall sketch about working in a wartime canteen – again causing a lot of laughter.

Carol Sheppard, Gary Willard and I performed a translation from French into 'Franglais' of a saucy estate agent trying to sell a house to a flirtatious husband and his bad tempered wife, amid much laughter.

After Brian Buddens' piano solos, Gary and I enacted our version of three Jewish jokes – I think Gary's appearance in a curly blond wig and wrap around pinafore caused the most laughter!

Anita Knowles and Kate Van Gend read a moving account of the part dogs played in the war and the evening ended on a high with French and English community singing and playing. After the singing of the British and the French National Anthems,



Date for your diary



January 16 2015
Supper social at
St James' Parish Hall

the curtain went down on what had been a most successful and entertaining evening. Thanks to Keith Richardson, who set up the audio equipment and to Pam Burns who organised a very successful raffle thanks to the generous donations received from Members. The Committee worked tirelessly in the background as always and helped to make the evening a huge success.

The Committee has appreciated the number of complimentary messages many of you sent us after the event. Some of you wanted to know when we were going to repeat the evening!

Our other successful event was the boules match we played against Denmead Twinning Association to celebrate Bastille Day in July. I'm delighted to report that the Emsworth Twinning Association won the trophy this year. The caterers at 'Samuel's Rest' put on a delicious buffet supper which we all enjoyed and the Denmead Twinners have indicated that they would like to repeat the event next year.

Hopefully, you will notice that the date of our next event has changed from November, which the Committee felt was too close to our October event. Our winter social evening with supper will now take place on January 16 2015 at St James' Parish Hall. The Committee decided that perhaps a change was needed from our usual Annual Dinner which appeared to have declined in popularity over the years and so we are planning a social evening with supper instead – more details later on in the year.

I would like to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and look forward to welcoming you to events planned for 2105 including an exchange visit – hopefully early in May from our friends from St Aubin.

Amicalement,

Hazel

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