



Emsworth - Saint Aubin Twinning Association

Emsworth – Saint Aubin Twinning Association Newsletter Spring 2015

Chairman's Letter

Dear Members

Congratulations to those of you who hosted our visitors from St Aubin at the beginning of May and made our Exchange Visit another great success. This year we welcomed 32 French friends from St Aubin, most of whom arrived at 06.45 on Friday morning, which was a bit of a shock for those of us who are retired and used to a later start!

The weather was cold, but that didn't stop any of the enjoyment of the weekend.

Dates for your diary



July 17

Boules match with Denmead Twinning Association

October 24

Twinning Revue and supper



One of our Committee members had organised a guided walk around Chichester followed by a bring your own pic-nic lunch, kindly hosted by Lois and Brian Cope and much enjoyed by all who took part. Many hosts got together in the evening and organised suppers for their guests and non-hosting members.

Organised events took place on Saturday when the party was split into two groups. One group visited the Roman Palace at Fishbourne – thanks to Nicole and Carol for their translations – whilst

the other group cruised along Chichester Canal on a narrow boat – thanks to Beryl, Nicole and John Auric for their translations. After lunch, provided by individual hosts, the groups swapped over. The Copes, once again opened their house and garden for lunch in Chichester, whilst others went home or ate at various pubs and restaurants in Chichester. In the evening we all met up for a typical

English pub dinner at the Fox and Hounds in Funtington, where everyone enjoyed the steak pie and sticky toffee pudding which was accompanied by New Zealand white and Spanish red wine, chosen by Alan Borrow.

We were well entertained by two of the French Twinners who played and sang for us.

A big thank you to Committee Members who worked hard to book, organise and supervise events. Both Chairmen paid tribute to the



unforgettable events of D Day last year and to the maintaining of 'entente cordiale' through both our Twinning Associations.

On Sunday hosts were either entertaining their guests at brunches or lunches, with a chance for a look at the Emsworth Arts trail before heading off to the Port to bid fond farewells and promises of meeting again for our thirtieth anniversary in St Aubin next year. We hope that many Emsworth members will take the opportunity of visiting St Aubin next spring to join in the celebrations.

The visit has been voted a success but the Committee were sorry to disappoint those non-hosting members who would have liked to host. We have no say in who comes on the Exchange visits from St Aubin and sometimes we have more guests, sometimes less.

Obviously, Emsworth Twinners who were hosted in St Aubin last year like to return the compliment where possible. Our planned visits also curtailed numbers, which was why we were split into two groups. The Fox and Hounds were limited to sixty people in their restaurant, although we did manage to squeeze in a table just outside the main seating area. Your Committee will be taking all these factors on board when it comes to planning 2017 events.

Meanwhile, our funds are much depleted, as unlike our French counterparts, we do not get any financial support from our local council. The cost for the exchange weekend was about £2873.

That is why we ask for your support for our various fund raising events throughout the year.

The AGM in March was attended by about 35 Members. Kate van Gend was elected to the Committee and the evening ended with a fish and chip supper and a successful, fund raising raffle. Altogether, we raised about £200.

Our next event is a repeat of the Boules match with Denmead Twinning Association on July 17th. We won the 'trophy' last year and would like to keep it! You don't have to be a brilliant or experienced player to join in with the fun. This year, Denmead are organising the event and with the help of Alan Borrow, we will be playing on a boules pitch opposite Samuel's Rest, starting at 6 p.m. Unfortunately, Samuel's Rest are unable to cater for us, so we will be having our supper a mile away at The Black Dog at Waltham Chase. Details will be sent to you via e-mail as soon as we have them. The match is to be followed by a buffet supper in a local pub, making a very enjoyable evening.

Following the success of the *Twinning Revue* last October, we are aiming to repeat the event this October 24 and making it our main fund raising event. We have invited Karen and Trevor Kingsley-Bloom to cater for us and having sampled their food at a couple of events, we think you will be most impressed. We know there's a lot of talent amongst our members, please, let us know what you can do – whether it's singing, dancing, juggling, recitation, playing an instrument, or sketches, singles, couples or groups – Committee member Norman Bartlett would love to hear from you.

We are hoping that some of our talented friends from St Aubin will also join us for another memorable evening alongside many of your friends and family.

I hope you all have a lovely summer and look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible on July 17th.

Amicalement,

Hazel





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