



## Emsworth - Saint Aubin Twinning Association



*Chairman's Letter*

### Dear Members

Another amazing year for the Emsworth-St Aubin Twinning Association is nearly at an end and what a lot of fun we have had!

Since our AGM in March last year, John Auric has joined the Committee to replace Norman Bartlett, who had to resign due to ill health. It was good to see Norman back on form again at our last Twinning event at the end of November.

Our next event will be on March 11th 2017 for a dinner and AGM at Emsworth Sailing Club, which the Committee hopes will prove popular. We need at least 30-40 members to make a viable evening and after the turn out for the French Games Event last month, we are confident that you will be willing to attend this special dinner. The business of the AGM is usually over in 30 minutes and then we've got a delicious meal to look forward to. All the necessary information will be sent out about a month before the event.

Although numbers were low for the Chinese Workers' Auction event, held in September, we managed to raise over £400 for funds and those that did attend thoroughly enjoyed the evening and said they would like to do it again!

### Dates for your diary

2017

**11th March 2017**  
Annual Dinner & AGM

**April 28 – 1 May**  
Exchange Visit from St Aubin

Gary Willard dressed up as Auctioneer 'Foo Man Choo' and kept the bidding going.

Participants were asked to bring coins only and the bids were fast and furious, everyone happy that they weren't going to be held to account for large sums of money because only the last increase in the bidding counted; so even if a previous bid was £5 then a final bid of 50p would be the amount handed over to the table captain! Some members became very efficient at waiting for the Auctioneer's hammer to go down once or even twice before increasing the bid! Next time we will ask for premium quality items only, which might mean fewer items in the auction, but perhaps starting bids could be for higher amounts! Some outside bids from members unable to attend, but posing as 'celebs' caused great amusement! Sorry, there are no pictures, but unfortunately no one took any!





Our recent 'French Games' event, organised by John Auric and his family at the end of November, was very popular with over 54 people taking part, 10 were visitors and the rest members of the Association. Evelyn Lister and Alan Borrow organised a French wine and good quality cheese supper, which all enjoyed. John's daughter, Carrie, who is a French teacher helped devise the games and he was ably supported by wife Clare and grand-daughter Elsie (age 7) to implement the games. After a close run quiz, Carol Sheppard's team just managed to win the prize! It was good to see our new family – Mr and Mrs Bowns and two of their daughters enjoying this event.

Again, our last event raised over £400 so we are 'set fair' to afford an interesting programme



for our French visitors who will be arriving on April 28 staying for 3 nights.

The Committee are always open to suggestions for the visit, so please contact any Committee member with your ideas. We are intending to engage a caterer and holding the main dinner in one of the local halls, which will enable non hosting guests to join in. If you would like to host, there will be an opportunity to register your interest at the AGM and Annual Dinner in March.

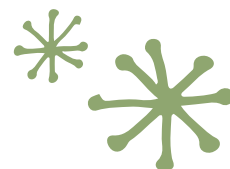
One of our long standing members, Beryl Jobling has recently moved to Devon to be nearer her family, so we wish her the best of luck in her new home. We are delighted to welcome three new members, Cherie Cameron and Marguerita and Graham Taplin and look forward to welcoming them at our next events.

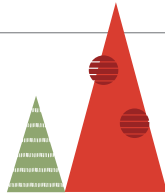
We are looking forward to another year of fun and fund raising events in 2017. Please come and support the AGM and Annual Dinner in March next year.

We are updating our members' information list, so please send any changes to Judi Milburn, our Membership secretary.

Finally, a reminder that membership subscriptions may be paid any time before the end of February 2016.

**Joyeux Noel et Bonne Nouvelle Année,**  
*Hazel*





## Committee:

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