

**LUDLOW
FRENCH
TWINNING'S
30TH
YEAR**



Ludlow Twinning News

No 23

April 2017

Featuring

- May visit confirmation
- Thirty years' celebrations
- Visitor information

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Thirty years...and more

Twinning founder member and Life President John Holliday pointed out to members at the recent AGM that that thirty years of twinning with La Ferté Mace does **not** just mean that fifteen visits have been made in either direction. "in the early days it was quite usual for two visits a year to take place" said John. He followed this up with many amusing tales about some of the early visits. Not your usual AGM, but most fascinating!



Domfront-well known to Ludlovian twidders!



Brittany Ferries-also well known to Ludlovian twidders!

Chair's message

Your new and existing committee members who were elected on 22nd March are listed on the back page of this Newsletter. Dave Mulliner is retiring after May as our treasurer, membership secretary and travel organiser for 30 years. He will be replaced by Gary Oram as treasurer and Pauline Oram as membership secretary. Sheila French is retiring as accommodation organiser and Pamela Thompson is taking her place. I am now chair, taking over from Valerie Cooke who is now working full time. Many thanks to those who are retiring, especially to Dave and Sheila who have been with us over the whole 30 years. We newcomers are all hoping we can maintain the high standards of our professional predecessors.

Sylvia Duffy

Keeping up your French

There are some interesting ways of keeping up your French and making your twinning visit more fun. One is the Language Café which is normally on the third Monday of the month, 5pm – 7 pm at the Charlton Arms. This is just social chat and people stay as long as they want. If you intend to come to the April Café, however, it will be on the 24th due to Easter. The second is the new U3A French group which is mixed ability and which concentrates on improving speaking skills.

For either of these please contact Sylvia Duffy (sylviaduffy@uwclub.net)

Visit arrangements for 24st to 30th May 2017.**Outward: Wednesday 24th May**

16.00 (4pm) Leave Ludlow Leisure Centre

22.00 (10pm) Sail from Portsmouth

Thursday 25th May

06.45 Arrive at Ouistreham

08.00 approx. Arrive at Caen for breakfast and sightseeing

12.30 approx. Arrive at Alencon

Departure from Alencon to be agreed on arrival

17.00 (5pm) Arrive at La Ferté Macé

17.30-18.00 Reception at La Ferté Macé town hall

Friday 26th MayDisplay: *'Thirty years of twinning'-daytime*

Evening concert: given by Ludlovians and Fertois

Saturday 27th May

Visit to Mont St Michel

Dinner at Domfront

Sunday 28th May

Day with host families

Return: Monday 29th May

11.00 Depart La Ferté Macé for Ouistreham. Lunch stop en route

16.30 Depart Ouistreham

21.15 Arrive Portsmouth

Tuesday 30th May

01.30 Arrive Ludlow



Mont St Michel

Le Mont Saint Michel is a fantastic medieval abbey and town built on top of a granite island. It is located on the north coast of France, and forms the regional border between Normandy and Brittany.

In prehistoric times the Mont was on dry land. It is now a rocky tidal island. Sea levels rose and erosion changed the landscape of the coast. Several layers of layers of rock resisted the wear and tear

of the ocean better than the other rocks around them. The mount has a circumference of about 960 meters and it is 92 metres above sea level at its highest point. The tides can be very different. The difference between the high and low water marks is about 14 metres. Medieval pilgrims who crossed the flat land sometimes called the mount "St. Michael in

peril of the sea". Today, it can still be dangerous for visitors who do not use the causeway and attempt to walk across the sands from the opposite coast.

Polderisation and occasional flooding have created salt marsh meadows. They are ideal for sheep. The meat that comes from the diet of the sheep has a good flavour.



