



*You may have passed
the **Welcome to Ludlow** signs and wondered about Ludlow's
French twin town.....*

Well, the connection between Ludlow and La Ferté Macé in Normandy is very much alive. We are a family association and welcome new members from Ludlow and around who would enjoy getting to know people from a similar area of France.

Visits between our two towns have been going since 1987 and there are friendships made then which still continue. We generally take it in turns to be hosts on alternate years, though because of the pandemic the planned visit in 2020 by our French friends has had to be postponed.

However, their visit finally took place, very successfully, in May of 2022. This involved forty three visitors from La Ferté Macé hosted by families in and around Ludlow.

Over the years, twinning visits have involved trips to ancient castles, the Normandy Beaches, and local places of interest. English and French 'twinners' have also shared experiences of family life, much food and wine, music, and even occasional games of boules and cricket.

When it's our turn to visit France, we travel by coach and ferry, and under 18s go free as long as accompanied by a parent or grandparent. There are usually no other costs involved – apart from a celebratory meal arranged by our hosts. It's a great opportunity for youngsters, especially, to experience something of French culture, as school exchanges become less usual.

Above all, it's that personal link with a French family that makes Twinning such a special experience.

And you don't need to speak French to get a great deal out of Twinning. Somehow, whatever we know of one another's languages we get by, often with much laughter, and a little help from miming skills and, these days, Google translate.

If you feel you might like to join us in welcoming our French visitors in the future and visiting la Ferté Macé in 2023, please see our website www.ludlowfrenchtwinningassociation.co.uk or contact Pauline Oram, on pandgoram@gmail.com

Between visits our Ludlow members have enjoyed regular French film nights (at the Blue Boar), New Year dinners, a Zoom quiz (including some brave French friends) and 'Race Night' (no actual horses involved!).

Please note - our AGMs are social events which often include a wine-related activity.





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We are now expecting their visit to take place in May of 2022, dates to be confirmed.

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