

Wortham & Burgate Twinning

Autumn 2017 Newsletter



Bernadette

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of **Bernadette Sarlat** at the end of August this year.

Bernadette had been a member of the Twinning Association for many years and a great enthusiast for all the activities. She organised the Christmas Market in Hédé and we were always greeted so warmly by her as she energetically organised stalls and checked that everyone was happy with the event.

Bernadette was a keen amateur painter and to this end, having discovered that some members of the Wortham branch of the Twinning were also keen artists, she decided to arrange an exhibition in a restaurant in Hédé featuring works from both sides of the Channel. This demonstrates so well the way in which Bernadette was keen to strengthen the links between us all beyond the yearly exchanges.

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I will remember her for her love of dancing especially wearing her *chaussures de claquettes*! During one summer exchange she performed a lively dance in our hall and gave us all much pleasure. I am sure that others of you will have your own memories of Bernadette with her engaging smile and friendliness.

Nick and I were in Brittany this August and attended Bernadette's funeral, and felt that we were thus able to represent the whole of the Wortham Twinning Association. The church in Hédé was full and there were over a hundred and fifty people present, a witness to the high regard in which she was held. The service was obviously moving and opened by a younger member of the family as she read the words of Guy addressed directly to Bernadette.

Afterwards refreshments were set out in a local hall and we were able to speak to Guy and offer our heartfelt condolences from the Twinning Association. Here there was also an exhibition of Bernadette's paintings which was such a lovely tribute to her where one could see the joy that this talent had given her and was now there to give joy to others.

Although it was such a sad occasion we were pleased to be able to attend and not only was it a moving occasion because of the loss of Bernadette but also because we were greeted so warmly by the members of the Hédé Twinning Association who were present and we felt that here we have good friends and this is one of the things Bernadette fostered through her enthusiasm and openness.

Frances Beasley

My most recent memory of Bernadette is sitting with her in the sunshine by the locks in Hédé in April this year. She was showing me photos and telling me with great enthusiasm about her most recent creative works. Her continued enthusiasm remained strong despite her ill health.

She was a key participant of Twinning here in Wortham and in Hédé. She will be much missed both by her friends in France and here in England.

Linda



Diary 2017/18

Film night – unfortunately due to dates clashing we have had to postpone the film night. We initially hoped to rearrange for 3rd November. However, since many committee members are not available on that date to organise the evening we have decided to postpone it until the spring. We will let you know of the new date in due course.



Hédé Christmas Market, weekend 2/3rd December.

As usual we will be having a stall at Hédé Christmas Market. The market is organised by the Hédé Jumelage Committee and it is generally a profit-making event for us.

If any members would like to visit Hédé to help with our market stall please let Linda (lindaruth@gmail.com/ 01379 644174) know as soon as possible. It is usually a sociable weekend since our French hosts as always make sure we are well looked after.

We sell Christmas crackers, gifts and produce and also have a raffle. If any members can help by making lemon curd or donating raffle prizes could you please let Chris Grocott or one of the committee have items by Wednesday 29th November.

Christmas Social, 14th December

By popular request we are going to have a games evening with supper. It will be held at Worham Village hall from 7.30pm. We will be serving pulled pork in buns with salad and followed by mince pies. We will be asking for a nominal £5 donation towards the cost of the food and hall hire. Drinks will be provided.

We thought given the success of the Beetle Drive we would include this in the games. If anybody has other ideas for games they would like included please let either Judith or Linda know.



Annual General Meeting



The date of the AGM has been changed to Thursday **18th January 2018** (not February as previously stated). Full details will be provided in due course.

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Hédé Jumelage visit to Wortham, July 12th – 16th 2018.

We look forward to welcoming many of our old friends and hopefully some new friends next summer. When they visited us in 2016 we had a subcommittee to organise the various aspects of the visit. This worked extremely well and ensured that there were plenty of new ideas for the programme of visits. We will be asking again for volunteers to help with this and in the meantime if you come across places you think would be good to visit or things that our visitors might enjoy doing please let one of us know.

We will also be asking you in the New Year who will be able to host a visitor. We often have whole families visiting from Hédé and this can sometimes be difficult to accommodate with one host. Since we do not place unaccompanied children with hosts we are exploring the idea of the younger people camping out in the garden of their parent's hosts. So if you think this might be an option for you please bear it in mind when thinking about hosting.

August music and food event

Around 45 members and friends enjoyed evening in the garden of Mike and Chrissy Odams dancing to the live music by Jo and Rob.

Although it was a somewhat chilly evening, tents had fortunately been put up and decorated with party lights and bunting making it look very festive.



A supper, prepared by Committee members, was served. There was a selection of quiches and salads followed by a



variety of puddings.

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After supper there was dancing to a varied repertoire giving people a chance to warm up if they were feeling the cold, or simply just have some fun.

An altogether enjoyable evening which raised £433 for funds.



(I have a large plain white ceramic plate and two turquoise/green plastic plates that have been unclaimed – if they are yours please let me know so that I can let you have them back – Linda)

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