

Wortham & Burgate Twinning

Spring 2018 Newsletter

It seems a bit late in the year to be wishing you a Happy new Year but it is the start of our Twinning Association year having had our AGM a few weeks ago. Those of you who attended will know that we now have a new Treasurer Sue Wright who kindly volunteered to take over from Dave Long. Dave has been our Treasurer for four years and our thanks go to him for keeping everything recorded and up to date. On behalf of our members I have presented Dave with a bottle of wine as a small thank you.

At the AGM I was delighted to welcome some new members including two families The Hilling Family and The Arnott Family and David and Andrea Key who have recently moved to Palgrave from Essex. Not only did they all join Twinning but some of them have already started to participate by signing up to help with organising the French visit and with ideas for social events.

I would like to extend a warm welcome also to Ian and Heather Hovey who live in Long Green Wortham and have recently signed up for membership.

I was delighted with the very positive response for members to join a sub committee to organise the visit by the French in July. It is so encouraging that there are so many of you prepared to get more involved in this way.

Equally there was a very positive response to ideas for social events/fundraising and currently the committee are putting together a programme for the year. It is outlined later in this newsletter and we hope to be able to put dates on some of the events very soon once we have contacted the people offering ideas.

As usual I, as Chairman, gave a report for the year. I will not repeat it here but if you wish to see the full report it is on our website.

Please make use of the website and if you are tech savvy befriend our facebook page and follow our Twitter feed (see footer for details). If you have photos or posts relevant to our Association do please put them on. Andy keeps it updated as far as possible and he would love a few more people to follow us (thanks to those of you who already do).

At the end of our AGM we held a wine and cheese quiz with some wine and cheese tasting. Quizzes on our AGM nights seems to be very popular and this was no exception. We didn't name our teams but the winning group included Isobel Hunter Jane and Simon Durrant and Jacky Bradley (apologies if I have missed anybody else – Helen were you also on the dream team?).

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Clearly experts, they romped home with the greatest number of correct answers and were duly presented with some tasty chocolates to share.

Thanks to Pam and Gerry Gurhy for helping Andy and I to formulate the quiz.

Program for the coming year

Thanks to everybody who has put forward suggestions for fund raising or social events. We are working on incorporating some of the ideas into our program either for members or during the visit by the French. If your idea has not been included in this year's program it is not because we don't want it and we may carry your suggestion forward to next year. In the meantime here is the draft program. We will firm up on details and dates as soon as we can.

Film Night Thursday 19th April 2018 at 6.30pm

We will start the year off with a film evening. A Tin Tin film (using real actors not the cartoon version) in French with English subtitles which we hope will suit both children and adults. £5 (children free) soft drinks and nibbles provided. If you wish to have an alcoholic drink please bring your own.

The film evening will be at Ivy House Farm in the barn, by kind permission of Jacky Bradley

Friday 18th May Breton /French dance evening

A chance to have a bit of fun learning to do Breton dancing. Led by a professional group, Bof, we will be taught and have a chance to practise some traditional Breton dances. Some of us had a go when we were in Hédé last year and enjoyed it very much. Full details of location timings etc. will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

During the rest of the year we hope to have a casino evening (black tie and posh frocks optional) and an evening of entertainment with Mike Bowen. See also below regarding events during the visit by the French. As usual at the end of the year we will be sending a few members to Hédé for the Christmas market and will be holding a Christmas social.

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

As already mentioned we have had a very encouraging response from people helping to organise the visit by our Twinning partners in July. They have had an initial meeting and currently are working on the programme. We understand that most of our visitors plan to come by plane (in the past they have sometimes come by coach) but at this stage we do not know numbers.

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We are hoping to incorporate some of the ideas from the AGM into the programme and will let you have full details in due course. We would like to emphasise that you do not have to be hosting a French visitor to be involved. All members are invited to the various events that will be happening over the weekend of the visit.

If you wish to host but haven't as yet let Judith (jeansjudith@hotmail.com) know can you please do so.

News

Christmas Market

Once again members came up trumps with contributions for the Hédé Christmas Market as a result of which it was once again a good fund raiser. In all 8 of us went. As part of the visit on the Saturday we help the Hédé Jumelage team erect the tents and selling booths and prepare for the market the following day. This year it included helping make some brioche people to sell on the following day (see photos below).

Market day itself is quite a long one but our hosts make sure there is plenty of vin chaud, hot food and snacks available to keep us going. One of our younger members Lou Hughes came with her mother to help sell products and brush up on her French. Old friends from Hédé Jumelage who live near the market square also invited us for hot soup.

The day before the market Janine Feude the current Chairman of Hédé Jumelage very kindly hosted a lunch in



her beautiful old farmhouse, for some 40 people including visitors from Bad Bergen, the German town twinned with Hédé, who were also selling at the market.

Around £630 was raised for Wortham Twinning funds.





**Janine's
Lunch
Party**

Brioche men



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Christmas Social

Following a suggestions from members we had a games evening with supper for our Christmas social this year. We discovered from the time the French visited us in 2016 that having a beetle drive is a good warm up so the evening kicked off with that. One of new young family members was the successful winner although the prize with some prosecco and chocolates had to be shared with his parents!



During the evening members had a go at the dingbats, traditional skittles, giant dominoes and giant genga. Refreshments of pulled pork in buns with salad, plus mince pies to follow had been prepared by committee members. Fizzy wine and soft drinks were provided with members providing their own drinks if wished.



Towards the end of the evening Peter and Kay Lucas played us some carols which we were able to join in with and get into the Christmas spirit.